

- - **REMARKS** - -

The present amendment replies to a First Non-Final Office Action dated November 10, 2002. Claims 1-9 are currently pending in the present application.

In the Non-Final Office Action, Examiner Williams rejected pending claims 1-9 on various grounds. The Applicants respond to each rejection as subsequently recited herein, and respectfully requests reconsideration and further examination of the present application under 37 CFR § 1.112:

- A. Claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,578,892 to *Whitman* et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,129,980 to *Tsukada* et al.

The Applicant has thoroughly considered Examiner Williams' remarks concerning the patentability of independent claims 1-9 over *Whitman* in view of *Tsukada*. The Applicant has also thoroughly read *Whitman* and *Tsukada*. The Applicant respectfully asserts that *Whitman* and *Tsukada*, in combination, fail to disclose, teach or suggest "wherein at least a part of the lamp vessel (1) is provided with a light-absorbing coating (3) for causing a color point shift, the light-absorbing coating (3) including a pigment which absorbs a part of the visible light" as recited in amended independent claim 1. In fact, *Tsukada* teaches away from a color point shift. Specifically, *Tsukada* teaches the anti-reflection film was provided on the surface of the liquid crystal display of a personal computer (PC9821NS/340W, Nippon Electric Co., Ltd.) where the reflection on the surface of each sample was observed, and found that the sample provided with the film of the invention exhibited excellent visibility (i.e., the color display is not modified by the anti-reflection film). See, *Tsukada* at column 26, lines 16-21.

Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection of independent claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Whitman* in view of *Tsukada* is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-8, and 10 depend from independent claim 1. Therefore, dependent claims 2-8, and 10 include all of the elements and limitations of independent claim 1. It is therefore respectfully submitted by the Applicant that dependent claims 2-8, and 10 are allowable over *Whitman* in view of *Tsukada* for at least the same reasons as set forth with respect to independent claim 1. Withdrawal of the rejection of dependent claims 2-9 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) being unpatentable over *Whitman* in view of *Tsukada* and the allowance of claim 10 is therefore respectfully requested.

- B.** Claim 9 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,578,892 to *Whitman* et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,129,980 to *Tsukada* et al. and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 5,863,321 to *Crumley* et al.

Claim 9 depends from independent claim 1. Therefore, dependent claim 9 includes all of the elements and limitations of independent claim 1. It is therefore respectfully submitted by the Applicant that dependent claim 9 is allowable over *Whitman* in view of *Tsukada* and *Crumley* for at least the same reasons as set forth with respect to independent claim 1. Withdrawal of the rejection of dependent claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) being unpatentable over *Whitman* in view of *Tsukada* and *Crumley* is therefore respectfully requested.

SUMMARY

Examiner Williams's 35 U.S.C. §103 rejections of claims 1-9 have been obviated by the above amendment to independent claim 1. The Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-20 fully satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102, 103 and 112. In view of the foregoing, favorable consideration and early passage to issue of the present application is respectfully requested. If any points remain in issue that may best be resolved through a personal or telephonic interview, Examiner Williams is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

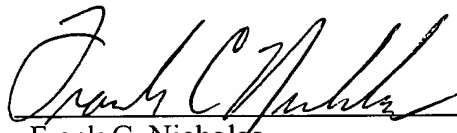
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Respectfully submitted,
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